

February 4, 2000

Brig. Gen. Carl A. Strock
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Northwestern Division
P.O. Box 2870
Portland, Oregon 97208-2870

Mr. J. William McDonald
Regional Director
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Pacific Northwest Regional Office
1150 N. Curtis Road
Boise, Idaho 83706-1234

Ms. Judith Johansen
Administrator
Bonneville Power Administration
911 N.E. Eleventh Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97232

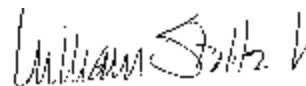
RE: Endangered Species Act Section 7 Supplemental Biological Opinion on the Operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System Including the Juvenile Fish Transportation Program: A Supplement to the Biological Opinion Signed on March 2, 1995, For the Same Projects [Consultation Number F/NWR/1999/0084]

Dear Gen. Strock, Mr. McDonald, and Ms. Johansen:

Enclosed is the supplemental biological opinion prepared by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act on operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System pursuant to the listing of six species of salmon and steelhead listed during March 1999. As stated in the biological opinion, NMFS had determined that the proposed activity is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of endangered or threatened species.

As you know, we asked our state and tribal fisheries co-managers to review a draft of this 2000 Supplemental FCRPS Biological Opinion during the first three weeks of January 2000. In a number of cases, they provided additional data obtained during the fall 1999 field season in the Ives Island area below Bonneville Dam. This new information will help NMFS refine its recommendations for a spawning operation during 2000 and future years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William Stelle, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

William Stelle, Jr.
Regional Administrator

Enclosure

cc:

Dan Daley, Bonneville Power Administration
Doug Arndt, Corps of Engineers
Ron McKown, Bureau of Reclamation
Fred Olney, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mary Lou Soscia, Environmental Protection Agency
Ron Boyce, State of Oregon
Jim Nielsen, State of Washington
Jim Yost, State of Idaho
Amy Skilbred, State of Alaska
James Litchfield, State of Montana
Raphael Bill, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla
Patty O'Toole Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Res.
Lynn Hatcher, Yakama Indian Nation
Si Whitman, Nez Perce Tribe
Jerry Marco, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
Joe DosSantos, Confed. Salish & Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead
Kelly Lillengreen, Coeur d'Alene Tribe of Idaho
Glen Nenema, Kalispel Tribe
Sue Ireland, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho
Keith Kutchins, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall
Terry Gibson, Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of Duck Valley Res.
Keith Underwood, Spokane Tribe of Indians
Haace St. Martin, Burns Paiute Tribe
Bob Lohn, Northwest Power Planning Council
Brian Allee, Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority
Bob Heinith, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission